

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT**

Public Services – PRED – Imposition of major penalty of reduction of lower time scale of SPPI permanently on Sri K. Sugunakar Rao, the then AEE, PR (CPWS Scheme Pondaluru) for the irregularities committed in execution of works of CPWS Schemes in Pondaluru in Kadapa District – Orders – Issued.

PANCHAYAT RAJ AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 300

**Dated: 08-06-2020.
Read the following:-**

- 1)Govt.Memo.No.162/Vig.II/A1/2001-17 PR&RD(Vig.II)Dept.,
Dated:02-05-2005.
- 2)From Sri K. Sugunakar Rao, MEO, MP, Nimmanapalle, WSD dated:
25-07-2005.
- 3)G.O.Rt.No.421 PR&RD(Vig.II)Dept., Dated:22-03-2007.
- 4)From Commissioner of Inquiries, GAD, D.O.Letter No.133/COI.JR/2007
Dated:01-08-2008.
- 5)Govt.Memo.No.162/Vig.II/A1/2001-30 PR&RD(Vig.II)Dept., Dt:08-09-2008
- 6)From Sri K. Sugunakara Rao, MEO, Puthalapattu representation
Dated:8-11-2008.
- 7)Govt.Memo.No.162/Vig.II/A1/01-35 PR&RD(Vig.II)Deptt.,Dt:03-12-2009.
- 8)From Engineer-in-Chief, PR, Hyd.,vide Letter No.Vig.I(4)/17398/1999
Dated:19-07-2012.
- 9)From the Secretary, APPSC, Letter No.1139/RT/2/2013, dt:02-04-2014.
- 10)Govt.Memo.No.162/Vig.II/A1/2001 Dt:15-2-2013.
- 11)From Engineer-in-Chief, PR, Vijayawada vide Letter No.Ser-IV/17938/99,
Dt:05-12-2019

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ORDER:

On the allegations of serious lapses took place in execution of two CPWS Schemes sanctioned to Vontimitta and Pondaluru in Kadapa District, disciplinary proceedings under Rule 20 of A.P.Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1991 have been initiated against Sri K. Sugunakar Rao, the then AEE, RWS (Projects), Sub-Division, Rajampet, Kadapa District along with others, and in the reference 1st read above, the following article of charge was issued against him:-

Charge-1:- That Sri K. Sugunakara Rao, while working as I/c AEE, RWS (Projects), Sub-Division, Rajampet, Cuddapah District, has failed to execute the pipe line work for CPWS Scheme to Pondaluru, properly and resulted that the scheme in question is not functioning due to leakage to the pipe line and also caused loss to the Government.

Charge-2 :- That the D.O. has committed irregularities by allowing payments for the defective work "CPWS Scheme to Ponduluru", violating the rules.

Charge-3:- That the D.O. has also executed pipe line of CPWS Scheme to Pondaluru, near to the B.T. road edge which caused damages of pipe line and caused loss to the public money.

2. The Charged Officer has submitted his written statement of defence vide reference 2nd read above, and the same was not convincing. Hence, the case was entrusted to General Administration (COI) Department, for conducting detailed inquiry. Accordingly, in the reference 3rd read above, orders were issued appointing Sri Janak Raj, IPS, Member, Commissioner of Inquiries, General Administration (COI) Department as Inquiry Authority to inquire into the charges framed against Sri K. Sugunakar Rao, AEE, RWS, Rajampet, Kadapa District along with (2) other AEEs.

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3. In the reference 4th read above, the Inquiry Officer has submitted his inquiry report and made following findings :-

- 1) With regard to charge-1 the CO, his failure to execute the pipeline work for CPWS Scheme to Pondaluru properly and resulted that the scheme in question was not functioning due to leakages to the pipeline and also caused loss to the Govt. that he failed to conduct Hydraulic tests as per the specifications and agreement conditions because of which pipelines were leaking and the leakages were not arrested. The charged officer contended that he was new to the project work with only 3 years service and that he did every thing after discussing with Dy.Executive Engineer and Executive Engineer and the materials supplied were certified by quality control and the procedure of conducting hydraulic tests was not in practice nor were any instructions given in this regard by superiors. The Presenting Officer in his arguments held him fully responsible for the lapses saying he was the initial officer and was to conduct the hydraulic test and that the charged officer ignored any pipelines laid for going water that lines should be tested by any technical procedures and he was now throwing blame on the higher authorities. He should have brought to the notice of higher authorities regarding testing of pipe line at that time. Agreeing with the Presenting Officer, hold this charge-1 against him as proved.
- 2) With regard to charge-2, the CO committing irregularities by allowing payments for the defective work "CPWS scheme to Pondaluru" violating the rules. He allowed the payments for the defective work without conducting hydraulic tests. He should have conducted the hydraulic tests which he failed to do before allowing payments to the contractors. Hence, hold this charge-2 against him as proved.
- 3) With regard to charge-3, the CO executing pipeline of CPWS scheme to Pondaluru near to BT road edge which caused damages of pipeline and caused loss to the public money. The CO in his arguments asserted that there was thick jungle and the pipeline was laid to the possible limit from BT Road edge. There were fields at a distance of 2.5 to 3 metres from the edge of BT Road and the alignment was fixed by the Executive Engineer Incharge as Superintending Engineer. Agree with the contentions of the CO that he did what ever was best and it was under the guidance and instructions of the superior authorities like Executive Engineer and Superintending Engineer. Agreeing with the defence of the charged officer, hold this charge as Not proved.

4. Government, after examining the said enquiry report, have decided to agree with the findings of E.O and accordingly communicated a copy of inquiry report to the Charged Officer and directed to submit his representation on the enquiry report vide reference 5th read above.

5. In the reference 6th read above, Sri K. Sugunakar Rao, AEE, RWS, Rajampet, Kadapa District has submitted his representation on the enquiry report, stating in respect of charge-1, there has been no mistake in the laying of the pipe line. Every possible care was taken. The work of laying the pipe line had been completed in September, 2000, at present the scheme is completed and functioning well with 44.00 KM Pipe line covering 55 habitations and the reports was also submitted the Superintending Engineer and Chief Engineer concerned. After the scheme was completed no defects were observed or reported during his tenure at Rajampet, i.e., till September, 2002. The charges are framed against him even though no defects were reported till September,2002. In respect of charge-2, he has stating that, in the case of payment, the bills were scrutinized by the DEE and EE after due verification of check measurements and test checks etc. The payment was authorized by the EE after fulfilment of all the terms and conditions of the agreement etc. His recording the M.Book alone cannot meet the requirements for payment. The practices followed then are stated in the statement of SE (Retd) RWS, Kadapa the supports his plea that the

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hydraulic test were not followed test procedure was followed in the department in those days. Further stating that the PO has submitted that the explanation of the CO is considerable and there may not be any irregularities. The PO submitted that the AEE may not done any irregularities while allowing the payment. The CO has finally stating that, the Hon'ble Inquiring Officer has not given an opportunity to present the above facts and finally requested to drop charges against him.

6. Government after examining the matter and the explanation submitted by the Charged Officer, keeping in view of findings of Inquiring Authority, have observed that due to negligence of C.O the PWS schemes failed resulting in wastage of public money, therefore, it has been provisionally decided to impose major penalty of reduction to the lower time scale of SPPI scale on permanent basis, with effect on future increments against Sri K. Sugunakar Rao, the then AEE, as explanation submitted by Charged Officer is not convincing. Accordingly, the concurrence of APPSC has been obtained vide reference 9th read above.

7. Government, after careful examination of the matter hereby order to impose a major punishment of reduction to the lower time scale of SPPI scale on permanent basis, with effect on future increments under APCS (CCA) Rules, 1991 against Sri K. Sugunakar Rao, the then AEE, for the irregularities committed by him in the execution of CPWS Schemes in Pondaluru of Kadapa District.

8. The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj/Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S, Vijayawada shall take necessary further action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.**

To

Sri K. Sugunakar Rao, former AEE, (through ENC, PR, Vijayawada)

The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, Vijayawada (in duplicate with a request to obtain and furnish the dated acknowledgment of the orders)

Copy to:

The Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S, Gollapudi, Vijayawada.

The Secretary, APVC, Secretariat Building-5, Velagapudi.

The Secretary, APPSC, Vijayawada (w.r.t letter No.1139/RT/2/2013
Dt:02-04-2014)

The Accountant General, AP, Vijayawada.

SF/SC.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER